



Temasek Primary School
Preliminary Examination
Primary Six Standard
2020
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 2
(BOOKLET A)

Name: _____ () Class: 6 _____

Date: 20 August 2020

Total Time for Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
2. Follow all instructions carefully.
3. Answer all questions.
4. Shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.
5. This booklet consists of 9 printed pages.

Section A – Grammar

For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

- 1 James _____ submitted the assignment earlier if he had not fallen sick.
 - (1) will have
 - (2) must have
 - (3) would have
 - (4) should have

- 2 The number of cases of personal mobility devices causing injury to pedestrians _____ currently on the rise.
 - (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) was
 - (4) were

- 3 Neither Carol nor her sisters _____ about the surprise party their parents had planned for them.
 - (1) know
 - (2) knew
 - (3) knows
 - (4) knowing

- 4 Considering the amount of practice the netball team had put in, its victory came _____ no surprise.
 - (1) to
 - (2) as
 - (3) with
 - (4) across

- 5 "You'll be on time for the performance, _____?" I asked Janet anxiously.
 - (1) will you
 - (2) are you
 - (3) don't you
 - (4) won't you

- 6 Having _____ multiple reports of online scams, the police decided to take swift measures to prevent such crimes in the future.
- (1) receive
 - (2) receives
 - (3) received
 - (4) receiving
- 7 "We expect nothing _____ than the best service," Mr and Mrs Tan told the restaurant manager.
- (1) less
 - (2) more
 - (3) fewer
 - (4) greater
- 8 Ifan, together with ~~his~~ his friends _____ going on a camping trip to Pulau Ubin this weekend.
- (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) was
 - (4) were
- 9 "_____ for Timothy, the rest of you may make your way down to the school field," said Mr Tan sternly.
- (1) Apart
 - (2) Except
 - (3) Unless
 - (4) However
- 10 The football coach helped the team _____ their confidence after they had suffered a string of losses in the recent tournament.
- (1) regain
 - (2) regains
 - (3) regained
 - (4) regaining

Section B – Vocabulary

For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

11 Joanne's mother is her role model and she _____ to her.

- (1) looks up
- (2) looks down
- (3) looks forward
- (4) looks through

12 The choir's _____ singing is music to my ears.

- (1) raucous
- (2) amicable
- (3) melodious
- (4) discordant

13 The smuggling _____ was uncovered by the police when they received a tip-off from a member of the public.

- (1) band
- (2) group
- (3) cluster
- (4) syndicate

14 Damian is a dutiful father who has never _____ his responsibilities towards his family.

- (1) evaded
- (2) shirked
- (3) dodged
- (4) shunned

15 Scientists were _____ by how the virus had spread throughout an apartment building even though the residents had not been in contact with one another.

- (1) dazed
- (2) fooled
- (3) baffled
- (4) bemused

Section C – Vocabulary Cloze

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word closest in meaning to the underlined word(s).
Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

Running for 350 km, the High Speed Rail (HSR) line will host an express service from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore. The proposed line aims to reduce travel time between Singapore and Kuala Lumpur to around 90 minutes by train, from the current 11 hours on existing train services. The project was first unveiled in February 2013 by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Mr Najib at a leaders' retreat. The two countries signed a legally binding bilateral agreement on the project in 2016, paving the way for its implementation. Construction on the project – which was estimated to cost around S\$16.8 billion – was due to start this year, with the line expected to begin operations in 2026. Apart from slashing travel time between Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, it has been said that the rail link will contribute S\$6.7 billion in gross domestic product to Malaysia and Singapore. It will also create 111,000 jobs by 2060.

Adapted from *Channel News Asia*, 28 May 2018

- 16 (1) planned
(2) arranged
(3) approved
(4) contemplated
- 17 (1) revealed
(2) exposed
(3) released
(4) displayed
- 18 (1) execution
(2) conclusion
(3) performance
(4) accomplishment
- 19 (1) inferred
(2) presumed
(3) anticipated
(4) determined
- 20 (1) remit
(2) devote
(3) provide
(4) allocate

Section D – Visual Text Comprehension

Study this article from a magazine, *Earth Lover*, and then answer questions 21 to 28.

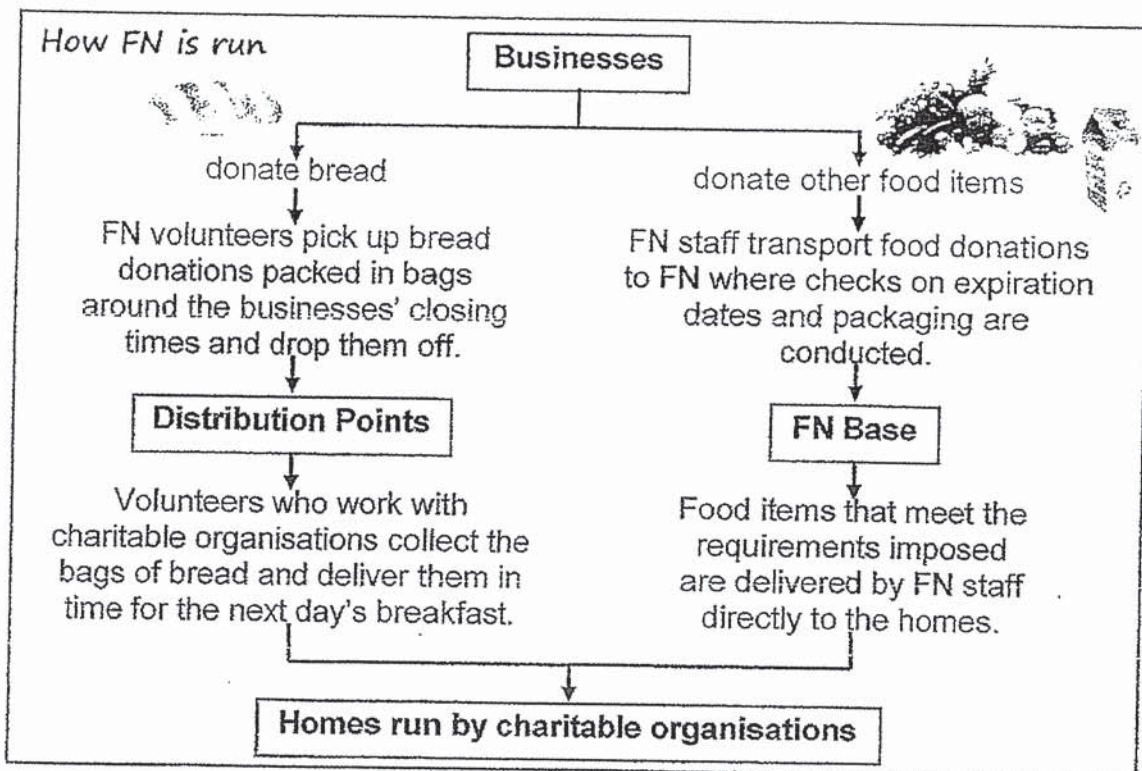
Let's lead a 3Rs lifestyle!

The 3Rs – reduce, reuse and recycle – play a crucial role in protecting the environment. By helping to cut down on the amount of waste we need to dispose of, they conserve natural resources, landfill space and energy. Minimising waste is everyone's responsibility.

Killing Two Birds with One Stone

Food is among the five largest sources of waste in Singapore and it currently accounts for close to a quarter of the total waste disposed of. That is equivalent to the weight of more than 54,000 double-decker buses! There is a pressing need to minimise food wastage, and it starts with avoiding food wastage and excess food production. Subsequently, redistribution of excess food should be carried out whenever possible.

Food Network (FN) was set up with that objective in mind. It has been saving as much as 50,000 kg of bread and other food items from the bins monthly! More than 100 businesses, mostly bakeries and supermarkets, donate excess food such as bread, milk, fruits and vegetables that is safe to consume. The donations are picked up daily and handed over to charitable organisations that work with the needy.



Minimising Waste at Home

Avoidable food waste, which refers to food that could have been consumed but was not, makes up a significant part of the total waste disposed of by each household in Singapore daily.

For instance, leftovers from a meal, blemished fruits and vegetables, and food that has turned bad or that has been kept past its expiration date are often dumped carelessly. Such waste can be prevented if some good habits, like preparing lists before shopping for groceries, adopting good food storage and preparation practices, and making use of leftovers to cook, are formed.

Minimising Waste at School

A lot of stationery is used at school. Some good habits to form are: ensuring that both sides of a piece of paper are used, using refillable pens and markers, and posting notices in classrooms instead of making multiple copies for distribution.

Donations of uniform and textbooks that are no longer needed but are still in good condition should also be encouraged.

As you can see, there are many practical ways you can protect the environment without having to make dramatic lifestyle changes. Now, it doesn't seem that difficult to make reducing, reusing and recycling a way of life, does it?



Annual Year-End Donation Drive



- ✓ Instead of leaving festive goodies to turn bad, donate them! They must be unopened, in good condition and have at least two weeks of shelf life left.
- ✓ If there are textbooks you will not be using anymore, donate them! They must be in good condition and notes or scribbles should preferably be erased.

Collection dates : 1 to 30 December 2020
 Collection point : Community Service Centre
 144 Egmont Road, Singapore 700100
 Opening hours : 8.30 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. daily

For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet.

(8 marks)

- 21 In "The 3Rs – reduce, reuse and recycle – play a crucial role in protecting the environment", dashes are used to _____.
- (1) explain why the 3Rs are important
 - (2) show that the information affects the 3Rs
 - (3) indicate that the information applies to the 3Rs
 - (4) present the effects of the 3Rs on the environment
- 22 Why is "Killing Two Birds with One Stone" an appropriate sub-heading for that section?
- (1) Food Network picks up donations and distributes them.
 - (2) Food Network reduces food wastage and helps the needy.
 - (3) Food Network prevents excess food production and wastage.
 - (4) Food Network saves businesses and charitable organisations.
- 23 According to the article, there is a pressing need to minimise food wastage because _____.
- (1) food is the largest source of waste in Singapore
 - (2) annual food wastage in Singapore weighs about 54,000 kg
 - (3) people living in Singapore have started avoiding food wastage
 - (4) almost a quarter of the total waste dumped in Singapore is food
- 24 Where is the inspection of food items carried out?
- (1) business outlets
 - (2) distribution points
 - (3) Food Network base
 - (4) homes run by charitable organisations
- 25 Look at the section "Minimising Waste at Home". What does "such waste" refer to?
- (1) recyclable waste
 - (2) avoidable food waste
 - (3) total waste disposed of in Singapore
 - (4) total waste disposed of by each household in Singapore

- 26 Which of the following is **not** a step towards minimising waste at school?
- (1) using refillable markers
 - (2) handing out notices to individual students
 - (3) putting up information sheets on noticeboards
 - (4) using every available space on a piece of paper
- 27 Susie cleared out her cupboard and found some textbooks she wanted to donate. What should she do before heading to the collection point?
- (1) remove the doodles on some pages
 - (2) wrap the textbooks carefully in plastic
 - (3) tear the pages containing written notes out
 - (4) check whether the textbooks can be used the following year
- 28 What is the **main** purpose of the article?
- (1) to explain why the 3Rs must be practised
 - (2) to explain how practising the 3Rs benefits the needy
 - (3) to convince readers that it is not hard to practise the 3Rs
 - (4) to inform readers that the 3Rs are being practised everywhere

End of Booklet A

(Go on to Booklet B)



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Paper	Max Mark	Score
Booklet A	28	
Booklet B	67	
Total Mark	95	

Parent's Signature/Date: _____

Section E – Grammar Cloze

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) a	(D) as	(G) however	(K) only ✓	(N) to ✓
(B) although	(E) by	(H) it	(L) or	(P) under
(C) around	(F) from	(J) of	(M) them	(Q) while

Echidnas are also sometimes known as spiny anteaters. Do you know that besides the duck-billed platypus, echidnas are the (29) _____ other living mammals that lay eggs? Echidnas live in Australia and New Guinea and they evolved (30) _____ 50 million years ago. Their ancestors were aquatic creatures, but today, echidnas have adapted (31) _____ life on land.

The short-beaked echidna's diet consists largely of ants and termites (32) _____ the long-beaked species typically eat worms and insect larvae. The tongues of long-beaked echidnas have sharp, tiny spines that help (33) _____ capture their prey. They have no teeth, and they break down their food (34) _____ grinding it between the bottom of their mouth and their tongue.

Echidnas cannot tolerate extreme temperatures and they use caves and rock crevices as shelter (35) _____ harsh weather conditions. They are usually found in forests and woodlands, hiding (36) _____ vegetation, roots or piles of debris. Echidnas are timid animals. They either bury themselves (37) _____ curl into a ball when they feel threatened. (38) _____ they have a way to protect themselves, echidnas still face many dangers from predators like feral cats and foxes. The echidna is also regarded as a delicacy by aboriginal Australians.

Adapted from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Echidna>

Section F – Editing for Spelling and Grammar

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in the relevant box. (12 marks)

By March 2020, all schools in Singapore would have to adhere to a new hygiene checklist as part of the SG Clean scheme. To get the SG Clean certification, schools have

(39)

to ensure that hand washing and toilet flushing fasilyties are functioning well, toilets are

(40)

(41)

cleaned and disinfect twice a day, and a pest managing programme is in place.

When Environment and Water Resources Minister Masagos Zulkifli visited Ridge

(42)

Secondary School, he made some observing of the hygiene practices there. He noticed

(43)

students tharahly wiping their tables and chairs in the classrooms as well as those in

(44)

the canteen. Mr Masagos komented, "As I moved around the school, I saw that the

students knew what they were doing. They not only knew how to do it but also the

(45)

(46)

reason when they were doing it." He added that it is a good way to inkulfkate values in our

children as a first line of defence in the fight against viruses. SG Clean is a national

(47)

(48)

effort to raise the standard of cleaning across Singapore. It is of paramount important

(49)

that we continue to upkeep the strinjernt level of standards in order to safeguard public

(50)

health. Since March 2020, over 5000 premeesses have received the SG Clean

endorsement. Thus, as a community, we must continue to maintain these high standards.

Adapted from <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/education>

Section G – Comprehension Cloze

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Malls and retailers breathed a sigh of relief on Friday, 19 June as shoppers streamed in for most of the day, marking the start of phase two of Singapore's reopening. (51) _____ safety measures in place, including limits on the (52) _____ of customers and applying the SafeEntry check-in system, most malls and stores said the queues were manageable. Customers also (53) _____ the precautionary steps in stride. A spokesman for shopping mall Nex said, "It's definitely heartening to see the (54) _____ of our regular shoppers to Nex. Despite the steady stream of shoppers (55) _____ early in the morning, there was no massive bottleneck or (56) _____ waiting time in queues to enter or (57) _____ the mall."

At Courts megastore in Tampines, a handful of people waited in line even before it (58) _____ at 10 a.m. By 11 a.m., about 30 people were queuing to enter the store. Mr Matthew Hoang, chief executive officer of Courts, said, "We observed many customers coming in with a clear (59) _____ to buy and they were focused on the specific items that they wanted to buy. This is encouraging as it indicates Singaporeans are heeding the call to (60) _____ responsibly by not spending a significant (61) _____ of time browsing," he added.

At fashion chain H&M, floor markings for queue management and signs to (62) _____ people to keep at least 1 metre apart helped to (63) _____ that shoppers followed safe distancing rules. Its stores also (64) _____ public announcements to reinforce the safe distancing message. Each customer was allowed to try on a maximum of four garments, (65) _____ from the usual limit of seven. Alternate fitting rooms were open for use and the rooms were sanitised after each use.

Adapted from *The Straits Times*, 19 June 2020

Section H – Synthesis / Transformation

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in **one** sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

- 66 Mrs Lim was wise in the way she managed the dispute between the two boys.

Mrs Lim showed _____

- 67 James ate his food too quickly during recess. He had a stomachache.

Having _____

- 68 The rude boy stared at his teacher defiantly.

_____ in

- 69 "Did you remember to water the plants yesterday?" Mother asked me.

Mother asked me _____

- 70 Sonia did not want to participate in the dance performance. Her friends tried very hard to persuade her.

No matter _____

Section I – Open-Ended Comprehension

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

"Hey!" a voice called from behind me. "Are you a girl or a duck?" I ignored the remark even though I knew it was directed at me. I ran to class, causing my slight limp to become even more apparent. I just wanted to get away from the group of mean girls who knew that it was my first day at school, and from the looks of it, were determined to ruin it.

5

By the time lunch hour arrived, I was **feeling better about the situation**. Betsy and her group had been quiet during class. Surely they had calmed down and would not be repeating their behaviour. Or so I thought. The minute I walked into the corridor, I felt a hand at my back. It was Betsy. "New girl, you walk like a duck," she smirked. "Quack, quack."

10

"Quack, quack, quack," Betsy and her mean friends sang as they went off to take their seats for lunch. Then they broke into fits of laughter. I went to the far end of the cafeteria and ate my lunch alone and in silence.

As the weeks went on, I gained the skill of avoiding Betsy and her group of 'quackers'. I did not linger in the corridor before and after class, and I went home directly at dismissal time. Still, I hated that I did not walk like everyone else. I hated not being able to run as fast or as straight as the other students and I did not like getting picked last for sports activities. Mostly, though, I really hated it when people like Betsy made unkind remarks about how I walked. Yet I learned to live with it until one day, the game changed.

15

20

"Class," our teacher addressed us one morning. "you've been in the same seats for a full semester. Now it's time to change seats and make new friends." Everyone let out a collective moan yet our teacher would not be dissuaded. When my name was called, I took my seat. Then Betsy's name was called. She sat directly behind me. It was pure horror!

25

For Betsy, her new seating arrangement was like hitting the bully jackpot. She was as close to **the target** as she could get and she did not waste any time getting to work. The torment started within minutes. Betsy leaned into my back. "Quack, quack." When I ignored her, she kicked my seat. When **that** did not work, she poked me. This went on until one morning, I simply refused to go to school.

30

My mother sat me down after I told her the details of my harsh treatment. "Look, she said, "there will always be mean people in this world. That will never change. But you can change the way you handle them. It's simple. Just give Betsy a compliment from time to time and be so nice to her that it takes the fun out of teasing you." I was doubtful but I was so desperate that I was willing to give it a try.

35

The next morning, I turned towards Betsy. Her hair was a mess and she was wearing the same pink shirt she wore every Tuesday. How could I possibly compliment her? "Betsy," I squeaked, "I really like your shirt. Pink is my favourite colour." Taken aback, she muttered a thanks for the compliment. Maybe my mother was on to something because Betsy only quacked once and poked me twice that morning. My new approach seemed to be working and I kept at it.

40

Then one day, I really had the chance to shine. Our Mathematics teacher sat at her desk, quizzing us with questions at lightning speed and expecting fast replies. When my turn came, I answered quickly and correctly. Then it was Betsy's turn. When she heard the question, she was stumped. Feeling sorry for her, I wrote down the answer on a piece of paper and slipped it over the side of my desk where the teacher could not see. Startled, Betsy looked down. "256!" she answered triumphantly, before giving me a broad smile. I had saved the day.

45

On the days that followed, Betsy underwent a tremendous change. She was kind and polite to everyone and her teasing stopped altogether. I figured out why she had been so cruel. She was so unhappy at home that she took out her frustrations at school – on me. However, when I was kind to her, **the teasing lost its appeal**. I was glad that I had listened to my mother and turned on the kindness. It was just what Betsy and I needed.

50

Adapted from *The Kindness Cure* by Monica A. Andermann

- 71 From the first paragraph, state **two** reasons why the mean girls picked on the writer. [2m]

- 72 In line 6, the writer was "feeling better about the situation". What made her feel that way? [2m]

- 73 How can you tell that the writer tried very hard to avoid Betsy and the 'quackers'? [2m]

- 74 Based on lines 11-20, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

	True/False	Reason
a) The writer had lunch with her classmates on her first day at school.		
b) The writer was not bothered by the unkind remarks made about her.		

- 75 Pick out a five-word phrase from paragraph 5 that tells us that the writer and her classmates were not in favour of their teacher's idea. [1m]

- 76 Look at the table below. What do the words in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. [3m]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
a) It (line 24)	
b) the target (line 27)	
c) that (line 29)	

- 77 Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the story. [1m]

_____ The writer's Mathematics teacher quizzed the class.

_____ The writer refused to go to school.

_____ The writer and her classmates had to change seats.

78 Based on lines 31-48, fill in the following table. [4m]

What the writer's mother advised her to do	What the writer did	What Betsy's immediate response to the writer's kindness was
a) Give Betsy a compliment from time to time	b)	c)
d)	e) Gave Betsy the answer for the Mathematics question	f)

79 Pick out **two** words from lines 42-48 which signal how Betsy's mood had changed after she knew the answer for the Mathematics question. Each word is found in a separate sentence. [2m]

Before Betsy knew the answer

After Betsy knew the answer

80 "...the teasing lost its appeal" (line 52). How is this different from how Betsy treated the writer at the start of the story? [1m]

End of Paper